TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

ESTABLISHED 1892

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WELL DONE, JOE!!

Appomattox should be proud of the job done last week-end by Joe Fleniken, and the other local amateur radio operators, who took the lead in bringing nearly 300 people to our community from 13 states, for the "Graveyard Net" get-together and grabfest at Holliday Lake. It was just about perfectly planned and staged, and the occasion was so successful that the "ham operators" want to come back to Appomattox each year for similar events. Such events are worthwhile, for their educational factor, and for enabling fellowship to grow between those having similar interests. Indeed, we invite these fine people to come back again to Appomattox.

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WEIRD ARGUMENT OVER APPOMATTOX

(An Editorial in The Richmond Times-Dispatch, Saturday, July 7)

A strange argument has broken out in a few isolated spots over the plan to restore the little hamlet of Appomattox to the appearance it had when LEE surrendered to GRANT there in 1865.

We note a reference in the Columbus, Ohio, Dispatch to arguments of "Maryland newspapers" that the restoration is "a very foolish project." The contention is advanced in Maryland, it appears, that "A simple monument to proclaim that on this spot GEN. LEE surrendered is better than a restoration on a 'fake setting.'"

The Chicago TRIBUNE erupted recently with the declaration that "only the thoughtless can approve the government's plan to restore and prettify the place of LEE'S surrender at Appomattox," and it went on to say, amazingly, that "Appomattox neglected and in ruins was the symbol of how to make a peace that will last."

All of which seems to us to make no sense at all.

In the first place, the argument advanced by unidentified Maryland newspapers that a "simple monument" would be better comes about 25 years too late. That precise plan was proposed in the early 1930's by Virginians, and a thoroughly fair and nonpartisan monument was selected by a commission of which the late William C. Noland, Richmond architect, was chairman. But the monument was to be paid for with a $1000,000 appropriation from the United States Treasury. More, it was to contain bas reliefs of both LEE and GRANT.

Certtain leaders of Confederate organizations hit the ceiling with a bang when they learned that federal money, appropriated by Congress, was to finance the monument. This seemed to them proof that the whole thing was a plot to humiliate the South. They also viewed with particular alarm the fact that the head of "that butcher" GRANT was to appear on the shaft. Ignoring GRANT'S magnificent generosity to LEE at Appomattox and thereafter, they made such a preposterous fuss of racket that the National Park Service abandoned the plan.

An even better one was then evolved. This was to restore the place of the surrender and its surroundings as nearly as possible to the way they looked when the Army of Northern Virginia laid down its arms there. the courthouse burned in the 1890's, and was rebuilt on the railroad three miles away, where the thriving modern town of Appomattox has grown up, all that is involved is the restoration or rebuilding of a handful of structures in the abandoned village of Appomattox.

Work on this project has been going on since 1940, although our friends in Maryland, Ohio and Illinois seem to be unaware of the fact. The McLEAN HOUSE, where the surrender took place, was completely rebuilt several years ago, from the original plans, and with much of the original brick. Restoration of the tavern, the jail, the country store, and the BOCOCK and PEERS homes also has been completed. A few other such tasks remain, along with some relocating of roads.

Where is the "fake setting," to which somebody in Maryland has referred? What possible logic is there in the Chicago comment that what is preferred is an "Appomattox neglected and in ruins"? It was not in ruins in 1865. What is desired is to have it restored so that it will look precisely as it did then.

What conceivable objection can anybody have to that?

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CONSUMER PRICES UP

Despite talk of recessionary trends, which are certainly present in the automotive industry, the Government has reported a major spurt in the consumer price index. A recent rise of 0.4 per cent, covering the period from mid-April to mid-May of this year, puts the index at 115.4. This is equal to the record of October, 1953, and 1.1 per cent higher than that of May, a year ago.

The index is based on the number 100, which is the 1947-49 price average.

The latest Government report indicates a further rise is to be expected in the next few months, although no such rise as that reported from mid-April to mid-May is necessarily forecast. That rise was the third in succession, and the largest of the three successive increases. Its effect is a threat to the stability of the index which has moved back and forth in a very narrow range for some three years.

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LOWER AIR FARES TO EUROPE

The world's airlines have formally approved another reduction of overseas rates from the United States to Europe. If the various governments concur in the development, excursion rates will be offered, starting Octobr 1st of this year.

At that time, a New York - London round-trip ticket will sell for $425. This is a regular-fare excursion ticket, and not a tourist fare or special price.

Another class of service will also be offered, which will be known as third-class service. This service, with a minimum of luxuries, will not be offered the public until April, 1958. But, at that time, the price of a third-class round-trip ticket to London and back from New York, will be less than $420.

The latest proposal for air fare reductions is another in a continuing trend toward lower and lower airline passenger rates. The new excursion rates mean that a London-bound passenger can travel from New York for about $212.50. If these excursion rates are coupled with family-plan flying, it may be that the average cost for crossing the Atlantic and returning will be brought down to just a little over $300.

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The general belief that fish is "brain food" is now declared erroneous by scientists. They probably arrived at this conclusion by noting that fish is eaten largely on Friday and observing the foolish things people do on the week-ends. —Mobile Register.

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Everyone is for the best interests of the community, until his own interests conflict.

Washington Notes

HIGHWAY BILL

The keystone of the new Federal-aid highway program is a 41,000-mile network of interstate highways linking forty-two state capitals. The Federal Government would allocate $25,000,000,000 among the states to pay 90 per cent of the cost of completing the interstate system in the next thirteen years. Projected tax increases are designed to produce $14,814,000,000 in the next sixteen years.

'56 PIG CROP

This year's spring pig crop totaled 53,086,000 head, a drop of 8 per cent from last year's big spring crop, according to the Agriculture Department. The department also forecast the 1956 fall pig crop at 35,000,000, 8 per cent smaller than the fall crop of last year. This means that the supplies of pork during the coming fall, winter and spring season will be smaller than a year earlier and that hog prices are likely to average considerably above the depressed levels of a year ago.

AMERICAN TRAVELERS

Americans traveling in Europe and the Mediterranean area spent a record $427,000,000 last year and will probably spend more this year, the Commerce Department reports. They spent another $415,000,00 to get there and back. An estimated 482,000 United States residents went to European and Mediterranean countries last year for pleasure and business and the average trip cost $1,580. Of this $650 went for the airplane or steamship ticket, and $880 was spent in the countries visited.

MOUNTAIN VISITORS

A total of 226,021 persons visited the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in May, boosting the total count for the year to .53,663. While the vacation season has hardly begun, the Park Service reported this is 21 per cent higher than the total for the first five months of 1955.

POLIO VACCINE

Salk poliomyelitis vaccine is now being produced faster than some areas can use it, according to the U. S. Public Health Service, which recently released 4,170,591 shots, raising the output during June to more than 10,000,000. That is more than one-third of all the vaccine released in 1955.

NEW HOMES

American families have invested more than $100,000,000,000 in new homes since the end of World War II in 1945. The new homes have an average value of $10,000.

PRAYER POSTMARK

President Eisenhower recently signed into law a bill providing for a stamp cancellation postmark with the slogan, "Pray for Peace." Postmaster General Summerfield has ordered the Post Office Department to move promptly in supplying about 10,000 first and second class post offices with special dies to permit use of such stamp cancellation.

CONSTRUCTION

Despite a 12 per cent drop in private housing starts, construction outlays this year will exceed those of 1955 by 4 per cent, according to the Labor and Commerce Department. Their estimates for all types of building were raised to $44.5 billion, compared with a forecast of $44 billion issued last November, and with actual spending of $43 billion in 1955.

NOW!

(Editor's note: Thanks to Mayor R. D. Robinson for handing us the clipping below:)

If you have hard work to do,
Do it now.
Today the skies are clear and blue,
Tomorrow clouds may come in view,
Yesterday is not for you!
Do it now.

If you have a song to sing,
Sing it now.
Let the tones of gladness ring
Clear as song of bird in Spring,
Let every day some music bring;
Sing it now.

If you have kind words to say,
Say them now.
Tomorow may not come your way.
Do a kindness while you may;
Loved ones will not always stay.
Say them now.

If you have a smile to show,
Show it now.
Make hearts happy, roses grow.
Let the friends around you know
The love you have before they go.
Show it now.

—Anonymous.

GOLDEN GLEAMS

They never sought in vain that sought the Lord aright! —Burns.

Let not happen which I wish, but that which is right. —Menander.

Resort to sermons, but to prayers most:
Praying's the end of preaching.
—Herbert.

And Satan trembles when he sees
The weakest saint upon his knees.
—Cowper.

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From where I sit ... *by Joe Marsh*

"Keep The Change"

If you've seen "Mac" Johnson this week, chances are he's told you his waitress story. For those who haven't heard:

"Mac" recently stopped at an out-of-town diner. He ordered the chef's special—and his waitress (brand new on the job) made every possible mistake. She confused the order, spilled the soup, dropped the rolls, brought him a wrong dessert.

Despite it all, "Mac" left a substantial tip. But she smiled and handed the money back. "Keep it, Mister—you've sure earned it more than I have," she said.

From where I sit, that girl deserves credit for admitting her shortcomings—something everyone is big enough to do, for instance. I'm convinced lots of folks know they're wrong when they deny me the right to a glass of beer with my supper ... but because they happen to prefer some other beverage. They wouldn't like me ordering them to accept *my* choice.

Joe Marsh

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Devotional Reading: John 3:14-21.

Savior of Men

Lesson for July 15, 1956

The Bible does not say that Jesus saves men from hell. It says that he saves men from their sins. This is much more important; for suppose a man were saved from hell but not from his sins. Perverted by sin, such a man would carry his own hell with him wherever he went, even through the gates of heaven. Christ is the Savior of men here and now, not in some future alone, but in the living present. In the words of the world's great "isms," means, first of all, to receive Christ as Lord and Master. When he comes to the rescue of those who are chained and beaten, who are the victims of their own selves, bondsmen of their worst self hates yourself. Left alone, your best self has a very slim chance. If any one is to be rescued from yourself and Christ is the rescuer every man needs.

Dr. Foreman

Saviour

How does Christ rescue men? The Bible suggests, and the church affirms, many answers. Let us look at one. Christ rescues men by saving their sins on himself. As a great Christian writer (Hordern) has put it, he "took the rap" for mankind. As St. Paul put it, "He who knew no sin was made to be sin, that we might become . . ." In a long-ago battle for Jewish independence, the story is told of the front-line soldiers who seized as many of the enemy spears as he could gather in his arms, and forced himself on them, thus making by his death a way through which his fellow-soldiers poured to victory. In North Africa, when the United States government was about to punish the Cherokee Indians for an almost crime, their chief Junaluska offered to give his own life if the government would let his people live. So he was killed, and his people were set free. These are imperfect illustrations of what Jesus Christ did as sin-bearer, as self-giving sacrifice. He "tasted death for every one." That does not have to be done twice.

Example

Another way in which Christ saves us is by just being himself. Once there was a school-room in which the small boys and girls were supposed to learn a courtesy, a graciousness of manner, which children in other rooms did not learn. Someone who wondered how the thing did it, and who knew how much it is to teach some children even the ABC's or of politeness, asked one of the boys how the teacher did it. "She don't teach us much," the small boy said. "She just walks around, and we fee! as we ought to be saying." A well-known hymn "What" sings, "I want to see Jesus, in my heart." Jesus, who men from their sins by so loving them that they know there is nothing better than to be like him. If you are learning to play the piano, you don't learn it by listening to poor pianos poorly played. You learn by listening to a master-pianist, a real artist. Now there is an easy way of understanding this matter of being saved us by his example: I do not suppose that we must every day compare him with ourselves, making (so to speak) a chart on which our "spiritual progress" is recorded every day—30% like Jesus today, 35% in 1956, and so on. That is absolutely the wrong way to do it. If you become is a Pharisee. The right way is to keep our eyes fixed on Christ, so to love him in sincere earnest, that we grow more and more like him, so may say almost without knowing it. True saints are not conscious.

Guest

When Jesus invited himself to stay at the house of a very wealthy character named Zaccheaus. Zaccheaus Jesus said, "Salvation has come to this house," and from that Zaccheaus began to be a different man from that afterward. In the last book of the New Testament a picture is drawn of Jesus standing outside a closed door, "If any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in." So Christ saves men by changing their permanent unseen guest. Only the Inner Companion whose very presence is a saving power. Christ is Saviour, not only by what he does for men, but by what he does in men. Being saved is more than knowing or doing; being saved is becoming by his invitation, host to the Lord of all.

How To Drive On A Fast Superhighway

Superhighways are not the accident cure-all their enthusiastic early supporters claimed they were, according to the National Safety Council, because even the best road can't overcome driver error.

However, you can avoid trouble on your vacation travels and enjoy wonderful facility of movement if you understand the danger points of superhighway driving. Here are some tips from the Council:

1. **Speed causes most of the trouble—not just ordinary speed,** but race track speed which the ordinary motorist seldom contends with. High speed does two things: it gives you less time to think and react in an emergency situation, and it increases the severity of an accident if one does occur. Authorities finally had to impose speed limits on the super roads, because the average driver just couldn't cope with upwards of 70 m.p.h. The limit now is 60 on many roads, and it is a recommended top speed whether there is a posted limit or not.

2. Don't get too conservative, though. Slow drivers cause trouble, too. Traffic experts agree that accidents result from what the engineers call conflicts in movement, and one way to have a conflict is to have some cars traveling a lot faster or slower than the average. So try to drive at about the same pace as traffic in general—neither passing nor being passed frequently.

3. Such differences in speed cause one of the most common types of superhighway accident—the rear-end collision in overtaking and passing. Fast drivers close the gap on trucks, buses and slower-moving cars much more quickly than they expect, from their previous experience. Result: they swing out too late to clear the vehicle ahead or fail to see it in time at night.

4. Another common accident location is the interchange — the cloverleaf intersection or other means of entry and exit. These cause the speed differential that is so dangerous in fast traffic. A well-designed road should have an acceleration lane for entering cars so that they can reach the proper pace before merging with traffic. When traffic is heavy, however, entering cars must wait for a chance to break in, and are then forced to come into the traffic stream too slowly. Cars slow down in fearing-tail-light ahead, and of listening to the drone of the motor and the rush of wind undoubtedly dulls alertness. The alarms, dangers and the minor emergencies common to driving on old roads keep the instinct of self-preservation functioning; on the superhighway this animal awareness of danger is lulled and relaxed—too much. So play the radio, converse with passengers, play license plate poker or do anything that will keep you from being mesmerized by steady, fast driving.

8. When seeking distraction, though, don't take your eyes from the road. The speed at which traffic is moving on expressways makes quick reaction to danger imperative. So don't let lighting a cigarette, checking a map, or settling a squabble among the children take your eyes from that point several hundred feet ahead of your car where you must see danger and avoid it.

9. Bad weather makes the superhighway no better than the ordinary road. It may even be worse, because some drivers still will be going too fast. Patches of fog and ice in shaded cuts through mountainous areas have brought many travelers to grief. There's nothing about the design of a superhighway that makes ice less slippery or fog less impenetrable. So watch out.

10. By all means don't drive on a superhighway if you are tired or sleepy or if you feel ill. Fast driving requires the utmost alertness and attention.

Farm prices rose two per cent during month to June 15.

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